Starting production of aerotyres in Dunlop units

575. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:
SHRI CHITTABRATA MAJUMDAR:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question 1082 given in the Rajya Sabha on 13th March, 2002 regarding production of aerotyres in Dunlop units and state:

(a) whether any action has been taken by Government to start production of aerotyres for Air Force from Dunlop;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) by when any Group of Ministers are being formed in line with revival of Dabhol plant of Enron project to bail out Denlop units; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Since the unit is located in West Bengal, in December 2001, the State Government was requested by Ministry of Defence to make efforts for reopening of Dunlop tyre unit at Sahagunge, West Bengal.

(c) and (d) The issues involved in revival of Dabhol Plant and Dunlop tyre unit are entirely different and cannot be compared.

Non-utilisation of funds for purchase of arms

576. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the funds allocated for the purchase of arms and ammunitions for the Defence Forces largely remain unutilized in recent years;

(b) if so, the quantum of such funds;

(c) the reasons for non-utilisation of funds; and

(d) whether the non-utilisation of funds has affected the preparedness of the Armed Forces in any way?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) It is true that allocation made for Defence, which includes funds for acquisition of weapon systems, platforms, ammunitions etc., in Budget

Estimates in the last few years was not fully utilised. The total funds allocated to Defence during the last three years in the Budget Estimates and the actual expenditure during that period are as under:—

(Rs. in crores)

	Budget allocation	Actual Expenditure
2001-2002	62000	54265.73
2002-2003	65000	55661.83
2003-2004	65300	60065.80*

*Provisional.

(c) The detailed reasons for not utilising the allocated funds are given in the Appropriation Accounts (Defence Services) for the respective years presented to the Parliament.

(d) Acquisition of weapon systems, platforms and modernisation of Defence Forces is an on-going process and non-utilisation of funds in a financial year does not result in dropping of any specific proposal.

Attachment policy of armed forces officers to IDSA

577. DR. NARAYAN SINGH MANAKLAO: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of Deputation/Study Leave/Attachment policy of the armed forces officers in Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA);

(b) the number of serving armed forces officers(s) holding important administrative post(s) of the Institute alongwith their attachment period and reason for retention, individual-wise, as per rules;

(c) whether Government propose to review the policy for attachment of armed forces officers to IDSA and for repatriation of long serving officers to their parent armed forces in the national interest; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Serving officers from the Armed Forces are attached to the Indian Institute